



**Chairperson Vice-Chair**



## **DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

### **Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, February 11 2010**

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Samaritan Center, 5555 Conner in Detroit, Michigan.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### **Board Members Present**

Ronald L. Griffin  
Mohamed Okdie  
Jerome Warfield  
Toney Stewart (**ABS**)  
Adela Rivera

Cmdr. Jeffrey Romeo  
Lt. Donald Hudson  
Sgt. Michael Dailey  
Sgt. Romel Alexander  
P.O. Lucretia Wright

##### **Department Personnel Present**

DC Herbert Moreland  
DC James Tolbert  
DC Melvin Turner  
DC Gail Wilson-Turner  
2<sup>nd</sup> DC John Roach  
Cmdr. James White  
Cmdr. Steven Carlin  
Lt. Charles Mahone  
Sgt. Bernard Beck-O-Steen  
Sgt. Robert Jackson  
P.O. Sophia Nelms

##### **Board Staff Present**

Dr. Richard Visingardi, Secretary to the Board  
Celia Banks-Washington, Attorney/Supervising Inv.  
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator  
Dalph Watson, Director of Police Personnel  
Lt. Daniel Allen  
Leslie J. Griffin, Community Affairs Coordinator  
P.O. Kent Cooper

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ron Scott  
Bernice Smith  
Shalonda McKent  
Olivia Brown

Tijuana Morris  
Edward Moore  
Eleanor Dukes

Patricia Ford  
Carol Johnson  
Monique Anderson

**RECORDERS**

PO Terence Bell  
Robert Brown

Lisa Little

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairperson Griffin** called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:08 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- **Thursday, February 11, 2010**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Okdie** made the motion to approve the Agenda.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Warfield** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **Thursday, February 4, 2010**

**MOTION:** **Comm. Rivera** made the motion to approve the Minutes.

**SECOND:** **Comm. Warfield** seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT**

**1. CHAIRPERSON**

**2. SECRETARY REPORT**

**SEE ATTACHMENTS**

## 5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

February 11, 2010

Volume 6, Issue 5

# *Detroit Police Department*

## *Report to the Board of Police Commissioners*



### Special Points of Interest:

#### • Next meeting:

Thursday, February 18, 2010

@ 3:00 P.M.

Detroit Police Department  
1300 Beaubien St. #328  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

### *“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”*

*The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.*

### **SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

#### **Domestic Violence**

On February 1, 2010, officers of the Eastern District responded to the 14000 block of Chelsea on a “Person with Weapons” run, which subsequently led to the arrest of a subject. As a result of the investigation conducted by members of Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with “Felony Assault, Domestic Violence, and Habitual 3rd Degree.” Two weapons were confiscated.

### Inside this issue:

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1

Domestic Violence 1

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Eighth Precinct 2

Central District 2

Northeastern District 2

Southwestern District 2

## Engaging the Community

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District/Precinct stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Mini/Sub-Stations to make reports.

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
	1300 Beaubien	24 Hours	596-5100
	20500 Conant	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	892-5456
	7737 Kercheval	* 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	628-2121
	19810 Grand River	* 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	870-0649
	13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
	2575 S. Schaefer	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	297-9423
	20 Atwater	24 Hours	237-2850
	13206 E. Jefferson	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	821-5851
	22101 Moross (St. John Hospital)	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	343-7506
	14700 Mack	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	852-4046

\* Mini-Stations– Monday –Friday

February 11, 2010

## *Police / Community Intervention*

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### **Twelfth Precinct**

On February 5, 2010, while on patrol in the area of Cherrylawn and Lyndon, officers of the Twelfth Precinct observed a subject blocking moving lanes of traffic. Upon further investigation, the subject was arrested and charged with "Possession of a Loaded Weapon." A weapon was confiscated.



**Central District**

On February 5, 2010, officers of the Central District responded to the area of St. Antoine and East Lafayette on a "Group Fighting." Subsequent to their investigation, a subject was in possession of a weapon with a Michigan Concealed Weapon License. However, the subject was intoxicated. Therefore, the subject was arrested and charged with "Possession of a Firearm Under the Influence." A weapon was confiscated.



**Northeastern District**

On February 4, 2010, Investigator of the Northeastern District discovered the information in two separate robberies may be connected. As a result of their investigation, a subject was positively identified in a line up as the suspect responsible for an "Armed Robbery and a Home Invasion." The suspect was arrested and charged with "Robbery Armed and Felony Firearm."

### **Southwestern District**

On February 2, 2010, officers of the Southwestern District responded to the 12000 block of Cherry on a "Breaking & Entering" in progress. Due to their quick response, a subject was arrested and charged with "Home Invasion 2nd degree, Resisting & Obstructing a Police Officer with Injuries, and Habitual 4th Degree." The stolen property was recovered.

6. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

[SEE ATTACHMENTS](#)

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** Comm. Rivera made the motion to approve the Grant.

**SECOND:** Comm. Warfield seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, February 18, 2010@ 3:00  
Police Headquarters  
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328  
Detroit, MI 48226

10. **ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

[SEE ATTACHMENT](#)

**ATTACHMENTS**

Board of Police Commissioners Meeting  
February 11, 2010  
6:30 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Good evening, everyone. We're calling the Board of Police Commissioners meeting to order. I am Commissioner Ronald Griffin. I chair this Board. And with me I have Commissioner Jerome Warfield and Commissioner Adela Rivera. We also have Deputy Chief Melvin Turner sitting in for Chief Warren Evans and we have some of the staff members: Rich

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Vinsingardi, just raise your hand. I don't see Celia Banks Washington. Arnold Sheard is here. Dalph Watson is here. Leslie Griffin and Kent Cooper. Those are the attorney supervising investigator, chief investigator, director of police personnel, community affairs coordinator, and police officer. We have Police Officer Terence Bell, Daniel Danikowski, Lisa Little, Sergeant Allen Quin are all going to be responsible for audio visual and we are glad to have all of them. This doesn't work well without that kind of support. I've been told that we have Executive Director, Mr. Mark Owens, Executive Director of the Samaritan Center. Is he here?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OWENS: Yes, sir.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Please come forward and have words, please, sir.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OWENS: Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, we just wanted to--first of all I'm Mark Owens, Executive Director of Samaritan Center, and we wanted to welcome you on behalf of myself and my CEO, Brother Francis Boyland who would be here were he not in Southeast Asia. And thank you on behalf of the entire Eastside. There are more than 40,000 people who come here for services and of course, we want to make note of the fact of the fine service and support that we get from each in operations(?) and thank you very much for that. Thank you, Commanders.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you so much. Thank you for your kind words about the Eastern District. The Board of Police Commissioners operates under a charter and there are some duties and responsibilities and we're going to have Rich Vinsingardy please read those.

INTERIM DIRECTOR VINSINGARDY: Good evening. The police commission was created by the city charter on July 1, 1974. It's composition is five members. They're appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council. They serve five year terms and they can't serve those five years

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consecutively. The commission meets once a week on Thursday and one time a month in the community like today and the other days they are at 1300 Beaubien at 2:30 on Thursdays and all the meetings are open to the public. The duties of the commission is to establish policy rules and regulations and they do that in consultation of the Chief and approval of the Mayor. They review and approve the department budget, department promotions. One of the big things that we do is we receive citizen complaints regarding police officers from the Detroit Police Department and we investigate those complaints. The Board is a citizen oversight body. The Board has final authority to impose and/or review discipline of the police department employees. They appoint the civilian personnel director. They prepare an annual report, which they just delivered one today to city council of the department activities for the public mayor and city council. The staff include the secretary. I'm the interim secretary. I'm here for a very limited time period to do some specific work and I attend the board meetings and do some other duties internally but it's basically the director of operations of the organization. We have an office of chief investigators and they are the individuals that do the review of investigations of complaints and they also do other things around the community in terms of posting information making the community aware of access in the complaint process, and we do other things obviously to support the efforts of the Board. We have staff that do that too.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you. The Chair would entertain approval of the agenda.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: So move.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Second.

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CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Approval of the minutes

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: So move.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Second.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

Report from the Chair. I just want to say this. This is not really a report, but I want the community to realize that we're truly cosignate of our responsibilities as a Board of Police Commissioners. We have a responsibility to the community. We are your voice as well as having the oversight and responsibility of the Detroit Police Department. We're going to engage you more than just the public comments. We're modifying our agenda accordingly and you'll hear more about that so just be prepared to come forward in a little different way than you have before in the past. Deputy Chief Melvin Turner this is the part of the program where we turn this part over to you. I understand that you got a presentation from the Eastern District.



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DEPUTY CHIEF TURNER: Commander is here and he has the presentation. As you know I'm sitting in not only for the Chief but also for the assistant chief that was supposed to be here.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay. I recognize this individual, but it doesn't match the name that you used. I'm just kidding.

COMMANDER DOLUNT: Commander Steve Dolunt from the Eastern District. On behalf of --James Moore couldn't be here. Welcome to the Eastern District. We had a pretty good turnout. I don't know if it's because of the food or what, but they showed up. The one thing I wanted to address, this is a brief presentation. Just a couple of things that we're doing to let you and the citizens know what its like over here. We're the second largest district in the city after the Northwest District. We average about 2,500 runs a week. That averages out to be 15 calls per hour. And you know we have citizens that complain, and rightly so, that we can't get a police car, but we're getting 15 runs per hour and that's an average on 24 hours a day. Any of those can be aggravated assault or some type of shooting. So we want to express to the citizens and the Board that we're trying. We're not there yet, but we are trying. And I think last year at this time we were down roughly 14 percent. Our crime rate was down the previous year. This year we haven't had as much snow, yet we're doing okay. We're right where we were at last year. The 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct which is down 94, south of I-94 was down 3.2 percent. The 9<sup>th</sup> Precinct which is north 8 mile and up we're right where we were last year. We don't have a giant decrease. Traditionally, police departments want a 10 percent decrease every year, but we kind of over did it last year by knocking out 14 percent.

The reserves in this district have done a great job. They've been taking signs down. Everyone sees them basically like an eye sore where they put signs all over, over everything imaginable with phone numbers and the

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reserves here in the last two months have taken over 500 signs down. And that's really good. They're mostly on major thoroughfares and they can be distractions while you're driving and cause accidents. So I want to put a shout out I guess to the reserves because they really have been doing an outstanding job and we really appreciate that.

Also the Eastern District leads the city in drunk driving arrests. And we've done so for at least last year and we actually got an award from MAAD. They're doing a really good job. If you want to drink and drive, stay out of the Eastern District. You shouldn't be drinking and driving anyway, but if you are, we're taking you to jail. And the last thing I want to address is back in December when the Chief came here he was really concerned about the suburbanites coming here and committing crimes. And he really want to enforce us taking the cars. Well they wised up and after we started taking the cars, they started taking the bus. Back in December there was a smart bus, the route is 560. It's on Gratiot. It goes from New Baltimore all the way to downtown. And we noticed that there were a large influx of what appeared to be, and I'm not racial profiling, appeared to be suburbanites coming down on a bus within our neighborhoods. What they were doing is they were going to the heroin houses and either they were shooting up at the heroin house or they were taking it back with them. The problem was they became victims of robbery, they got assaulted, and the heroin trade was flourishing. So we decided to create an initiative with several of the other departments like Eastpointe, Roseville, and Shelby Township and we had a really good turnout and Inspector ? were the two congruents between this department and the other departments and they really did an outstanding job. Narcotics brought the crews in and they were outstanding. Commander Well and trained Inspector Brown. For three days we kicked butt basically. We made 70 arrests for different things and when it did get north 8 mile, sometimes I don't go north

8 mile because they get more jail time and we had no problem with that and plus our jail cells aren't jammed. So we did that and we had 65 arrests of those 36 were felonies and we got some dope that was good and it's even better Arch Entertainment is shooting a pilot on the Eastern District Special Operations Unit and they just couldn't believe the cooperation that we got from the other agencies and I know Assitant Chief Meyer and Chief Evans are really big on cooperation with the other agencies and other departments so they got that and they did a pilot. Right now its on the Chief's desk and he has to approve it and we're hoping that we will buy it and we'll be back and Detroit's special operations will become an hour long series. So we're hoping. It shows the good and bad parts of Detroit. People like the gritty part of it, but the officers did a good job and I want to thank them. I know that's not a formal presentation, but I'm not a formal guy.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I think that's appropriate that you would bring that forward. Particularly the two aspects of it and the other Board members can speak to it. One is the spirit of cooperation that you received from the other agencies. I think that's great and I think that we're going to need to do more of that as we go forward particularly in those areas like yours, that are kind of border on other communities. And I think it needs to be shouted out even more that we're not allowing others to come into Detroit to do what they do, their dirt. Now, cause I know that we have a stenographer, so I want to make sure that everyone captures my words and to the citizens. You must understand that people have such a negative view of Detroit that they think that they can get away with everything and it's our fault if we allow them to do that. It's our fault. I'm glad Commander that you've done what you've done and that you had the support of the other police departments. I'm a pastor so I'm not going to preach, but I want you to lock them all up. And then we'll get a coalition of clergy and then we'll pray

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that they change their ways but lock them up. Follow all the right policies and procedures and do good police work, but lock them up. So I applaud what you're doing. Also another comment this is something I got involved in some time ago with, he was Deputy Chief Ron Haddad(?) at the time. You don't understand about signs, but we don't take that as nothing and that goes to the quality of life in your city. I relocated from Farmington Hills and I moved back to Detroit. I also lived in Novi. I can absolutely promise you, not what I read or what I heard, I can promise you those communities don't allow folks to put signs on nothing. You see a few political signs on the ground, but they take them up, but you don't go around and come by here. Get a mattress for \$59. Come over here and get a wig for \$4.95. They don't have it. So there's no need for us to tolerate that in our city. So I'm glad that you have that initiative. I'm glad you're speaking of the police reserves to let everyone know that they're doing something other than showing up in uniform. So I think that's an excellent report. I think you should be commended.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: I just want to congratulate you. Last winter I rode around with one of your crews and I also addressed the troops and asked them to please not refer to our citizens in derogatory terms and I happened to notice in the last year that we have less demeanor complaints from the Eastern District. I'd like to think that that was due to the fact that I went there and chewed out everybody.

COMMANDER DOLUNT: I'm sure it was and the fact that I followed up your chewing up.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: I just want to let you know that I noticed the demeanor complaints are down.

COMMANDER DOLUNT: Thanks. I appreciate that.

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CITIZEN: And thank you for doing that. I had submitted one of those complaints last year.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Commander, you may not know this, but I'm also a resident in this area as well and Eastern used to do speed crackdowns, specifically on Outer Drive which I live on. And we've noticed that speeding activity has picked up a little bit more and you had mentioned earlier about a number of calls and runs that our officers are stretched out on but any attention given back to that again I think would be very helpful because we still do have a number of young children on that street and especially when it gets closer to the spring time and summer they'll be out there.

COMMANDER DOLUNT: Specifically what area?

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Just north of Outer Drive--I mean north of 94.

COMMANDER DOLUNT: Okay. I'm going to have traffic enforcement do that. We have been concentrating more on Gratiot and 7 mile because we had a rash of armed robberies on 7 mile so I want them there along Gratiot, but we can do that. I'll talk to them.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Thank you.

COMMANDER DOLUNT: Any other questions?

(No other questions and comments were raised.)

COMMANDER DOLUNT: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Excellent, excellent job. I'm probably going to get into some trouble, but that's all right. To the community, if you're pleased with the actions that the Eastern District is taking and I say this to other precincts and districts then what you need to do collectively, you need to make sure that the City Council understands how important public safety is to the citizens because there're going to be some very serious budget reviews. I'm not trying to inflame you to go down and

riot and act unseeingly but don't put all of the ownership back on the chief of police to solve everyone's problem. You've got to take a more active role. You should let the City Council know how important it is to let this kind of police work to continue. You just heard his response to Commissioner Warfield I sent a team over here because of armed robberies. I don't mind shifting him over here. That's manpower and so yes we might be able to increase productivity with some deployment strategies that we're not using or whatever, but understand clearly that in this budget review there's not going to be any sacred area so you've got to make sure that the administration clearly understands it's not going to be enough for board of police commissioners as we review DPD's budget to state our position. That's our job to do that but it will have so much more support if you, the citizens write or go down to public hearings and make the administration aware of how important public safety is to you as the citizens of Detroit. Standing committee reports, any standing subcommittee reports? Hear none, new business. We have a resolution for a Mr. Milton Andrews. Is he here? He's not here. Okay we'll move on and keep this on the agenda for another occasion. Old business. Hearing none. Announcements. Next Board meeting will be Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at Police Headquarters at 1300 Beaubien and we're at the point of the agenda where we are going to have oral communications from the audience and the way we do it. I would that anybody that has something to say or questions to ask line up at once and so that we can go through this and you'll be given the two minutes to state your concern or your issue and we'll address it as best we can.

TIJUANA MORRIS: Tijuana Morris, Fight for your Rights Investigation and the Detroit Coalition against Police Brutality. Believe it or not, I'm standing here to tell you that I commend the commander.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: That's all right.

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TIJUANA MORRIS: He truly has a kind heart. I'm a retired police officer from the 12<sup>th</sup>, and he may not remember, but

people remember when you do good things. I remember my daughter was in junior high school, Red Ford, and it was an ugly situation where Channel 2 had to come out and the Investigator, the commander was the Investigator. A year later he said your daughter didn't do anything wrong and her record was cleared. We didn't have to go to court and it was done in house and it was done very professionally and I would like to thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Wonderful.

OLIVIA BROWN: Good evening Board of Police Commissioners. My name is Olivia Brown. I'm a resident in this community. Now I do understand what I'm about to say does not paint everyone with the same brush. However, I still have issues with the district. October 19<sup>th</sup>—I'm sorry. October 29<sup>th</sup>, I was assaulted in my residence by my man with two witnesses. The police was called, 911 was called after the assault took place and as it was occurring. The response time was excellent. My spouse left the home and came back. Both parties were interviewed as well as the witnesses. However, two reports were made, an initial report and an addendum. At no time, at no point was the witnesses included in the report. I contacted domestic violence. Eventually I got contacted by the prosecutor's office there was no criminal intent; however, when there was a restraining order. Who can say what's criminal and what's not at this point? This is not the first time I came in front of the Board. Hopefully it will be the last time, but I did not have to do overtime and I will address this eventually, but I had a mother who was actively dying as well as a—

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Can I interrupt you, Ms. Brown?

OLIVIA BROWN: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Ms. Brown, did you make out a community citizens' report, a complaint report? I'm asking for a reason.

OLIVIA BROWN: No, I didn't because I didn't—

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CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Don't explain. I'm going somewhere with this. I want Investigator Sheard, that gentleman right there. I want you to get with him now and I want you to put it in a report. I'll bring it to the Board and we're going to follow up to make sure that the things you identified get addressed.

OLIVIA BROWN: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Go with him right now, Investigator Sheard. Okay. He'll tell you what the process is.

MONIQUE ANDERSON: Good evening, Board. My name is Monique Anderson and I don't know how to begin, but my name should probably be kind of active. You're probably familiar with my name because I've made several, not one, but several complaints on different officers as well as the district. This is still an ongoing issue right now and the issue revolves around my daughter. Back in 2001, it began when first I lost a fetus because I was pregnant with twins when a woman attacked me. This woman, she was my husband's mistress. We're going to say ex-husband now, but she attacked me and I lost one of my fetuses. Well now to this day, my ex-husband married the woman unfortunately, but my ex-husband has custody of my daughter thanks to his mistress conspiring and had me wrongfully convicted in a court and later had my daughter taken away. Now my daughter is a victim of domestic violence and at the same time, this woman constantly goes to my daughter's school harassing the principals and the teachers telling them not to let me—well basically denying me of my parental rights and I posted a bond with Oakland County Court. So because this woman used to put false PPOs out against me for like four or five year straight in a row, they were granted every time and thank God for a family where there is a court judge. He posted a bond so that she doesn't post false PPOs—

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Excuse me. Your name is Anderson?

MONIQUE ANDERSON: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay. And I'm feeling you for real. I just need what it is specifically you think the Board of Police



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Commissioners can do to assist you. What specific problem do you think we can help you with?

MONIQUE ANDERSON: Well, several. This is just one of the problems. As far as the—

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Can we do this, because your time is going to be limited. I'm going to do something a little bit differently. I would if Deputy Chief Chapman would pick someone and I want Celia Banks—Washington who's our attorney. Some things we can follow up. It's our purview to do so. Other things, legally we have no recourse.

MONIQUE ANDERSON: Yes, I understand that.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: So, I would if Ms. Banks—Ms. Washington and if you would assign somebody, they would get with you right now and find out specifically what we can do to assist you. Ms. Washington, would you just raise your hand. Go with her and if you would just assign somebody.

DEPUTY CHIEF TURNER: Deputy Chief Moreland is out there and he will be on the assignment.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you.

ELEANOR DUKES: I'm Eleanor Dukes, President of City Wide. I don't know whether you know what City Wide is, but I'm here not to complain about the Eastern District, but I wish that everybody got the same treatment regardless of whether it's a commander or whether it's a regular police officer, and why the Eastern District gets people that are there maybe one day and they transfer right back out again and they don't want to stay because the police officers hands are tied. We have no community relations officer person. So I myself think you should look into prior before you get the complaint, look into what's going on in that precinct regardless of who does it or when it's done, but somebody has got to step up to the plate and I hope it isn't a political thing that's taking off, but they get them one day, gone the next day. Somebody else comes in there gone and they get nobody to replace them. Poor commander has been running his head off trying to keep afloat with no help. So if you don't have the help, you can't do the job, and

you keep on asking the citizens we need you, we need you. Well, they're not showing that they need it by not giving us police officers.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Ms. Dukes, let me interrupt you for just a moment. Just stay right there. There's one thing that you said that I think we can address immediately. I thought I heard you say that there's no community relations officer. Commander?

COMMANDER: What Ms. Dukes is referring to is—we had a recent turn over in community relations. We had some internal problems. We had to move some people. So then Commander Doland—so we had to turn over the community relations unit due to internal problems. So we'll let that go. So then I found a Sergeant to go there and unfortunately, with the current lawsuit and with the sergeants getting depromoted, he was one of them. It was a lost case. So I put another sergeant in there and he got transferred to fatal squad, but I got a new sergeant. I just got him this week and he's not getting demoted. He's not getting transferred, at least that I know of, and we're going to try to get another officer in there. We have five right now. We had seven and then we got down to five and we're going to try to get another officer in there to make six, and we're going to start working with them.

ELEANOR DUKES: I'm not saying that you're not working—

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you, Ms. Dukes, but Sergeant would you please stand up again. If you just excuse me. Thank you, Ms. Dukes. Your time is up. But I want to say to the Sergeant. Don't mess up because I don't want Ms. Dukes coming to come back and complain on you. Thank you, Ms. Dukes.

ELENOR DUKES: Thank You.

SHALONDA MCKENT: Good afternoon to the Board of Police Commissioners. My name is Shalonda McKent and I'm the vice president of the Northeastern District Community Relations Council. There are two things that are very important to the community and to myself is that we're in a situation right now where we have two boards and I just need some clarification of where we should be going. Should we be conducting relations as one with two separate entities or should we be conducting ourselves as one? Right now because—I'll just say personalities, we still want to be separate. The south end of our district wants to open up their own board.

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Okay. According to our bylaws and according to the City Wide bylaws, until there's something concrete or something in writing from either the Board of Police Commissioners or from the chief of Police, we need to come to some common ground because right now we keep saying we want the community and we are separate.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let me do this in two ways. First, what two boards are in conflict? I didn't quite understand that.

SHALONDA MCKENT: We're trying to get a second community relations council started on the south end of the district as opposed to—we're supposed to be as one, but we're in conflict with our bylaws right now so I need something in writing that I can take back and say no we're not split. This is not separate. No, this is not 11. We're just one.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay, Ms. McKent. Deputy Chief, please speak to that.

DEPUTY CHIEF TURNER: And I can because I'm in charge of police community relations. That's my command, but the issue you brought up I did discuss it with the chief in terms of that. If the district is—has been designated to go back to precincts even though they may be housed in the same building, the decision to split that board is your decision in terms of being a board. The commander will help to assist the relationship to that, but the decision to stay one group—because some districts have worked together now for a period of time and they don't feel like splitting at this point, but if the designation has all ready been transmitted to that district that they are separate—two separate precincts, then the Board can vote to split and just separate within the district where you would fall. Now the situation is that when we draw the lines for the new precincts based on where those buildings are may change some precinct lines. So people that were formally in one district or one precinct may not be in that group, but you will have to deal with that after we have permanent lines and permanent locations.

SHALONDA MCKENT: Okay. That's my main question. Do we today, today, have those lines drawn?

DEPUTY CHIEF TURNER: No.

SHALONDA MCKENT: Those building designations?

DEPUTY CHIEF: No, because some of the precincts that were closed are not suitable for us to go back into so based on where those additional buildings are going to determine the lines drawn.

SHALONDA MCKENT: But if the Northeastern District is not functioning as the 11<sup>th</sup> precinct and the 7<sup>th</sup> precinct, it's functioning as the Northeastern District and not precincts, correct?

DEPUTY CHIEF TURNER: I'm not sure on Northeastern if they are operating where two commanders are. They have traditionally backing each other up and operating as the district once they knew they were going back to the precincts or have been advised we're going back to the precincts. That's going to happen city wide.

SHALONDA MCKENT: When?

DEPUTY CHIEF TURNER: We're in that process and here's the commander.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Commander Peltier can help you.

COMMANDER PELTIER: Good evening. Commander Peltier Northeastern District. The northeastern community council board made a motion in November. They wanted to split to get more participation of citizens in the south end and the motion was made and agreed on and unanimously voted on to split so that way we could get more citizens that wanted to participate in our community activities. So the 7<sup>th</sup> precinct people are stepping out and trying to get their board rolling again and get all of those things, and we have a really strong committee coming in from the south end so that was our goal, more community members participating and they can get buyins(?) by having two separate boards. It creates more work for Commander Louis and I, but we're more than willing to do that.

DEPUTY CHIEF TURNER: So are you clear on her answer now?

SHALONDA MCKENT: No.

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CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let's do this. Get with her and she'll explain it. Let me just quickly state there was kind of a byproduct of the merger of 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> into northeastern. I happened to have my church at one time—my father-in-law's church was in number 7. They had a very distinct—they had their own organization. They have built a relationship with number 7. I have relatives that were officers at number 7 and I understand as well as I got relatives at old number 11 and so when the two came together that was understandable that you had those relationships and now we need to address that, but Commander Palatere will get with you and give you the details. That was a little bit confusing, but I understand what she's saying, but you need to get with her Ms. McKent and she'll help you. The last person that will be speaking is Ms. Smith. I believe you're in line and that will be—

CAROL JOHNSON: Excuse me.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Go ahead, ma'am.

CAROL JOHNSON: My name is Carol Johnson Ahumbay. I'm a community leader. I organized all over the city of Detroit on the Eastside, Westside, on block clubs. Wherever I move, I organize. Well, I'm over at Creekside now. I'm on the board with Creekside since I've been there. I've only been living in that neighborhood going on four years. This is my 4<sup>th</sup> year. We done had some shootouts in the area. One of our board members just missed her head on her pillow a bullet. They shot up through her house on Marborol Street. And then we had some break-ins and stuff on Ashland and some shootings that it was a break-in and stuff that had no response from the Eastern District.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay. Let me just stop you right there. Commander, would you take this lady. What's your name again?

CAROL JOHNSON: Carol Johnson Ahumbay.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Please give your information to the commander.

CAROL JOHNSON: Oh, he all ready has it. I comes to the meetings.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay.

CAROL JOHNSON: And he knows about the situation and everything, but the officer—you know my thing is not with him, the commander. It's the officers, you know, in the Eastern District. I've been robbed at the bus stop. That's why I drive a car now, because I can carry a weapon myself, but I've been trained with the police officers as a conflict mediator. They train us to use nonviolent tactics. That's what I do in eliminating conflicts. So I refuse to carry my pistol, cause if I carry my pistol, you know, we won't need any police officers around.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I'm so glad that you're using nonviolent approaches.

CAROL JOHNSON: Cause I am in the church also, and I believe God's way is the best way.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you so much.

BERNICE SMITH: Good evening everyone. As Mr. Owns said, welcome to Samaritan. This is my place of employment also. So I welcome you here. I have pleasant news. I don't have bad news.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: State your name.

BERNICE SMITH: I'm sorry. Bernice Smith, hood research and various other organizations that I won't name. I haven't had the pleasure of meeting the deputy chief. Did you introduce him and I didn't hear about it?

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: That's right.

BERNICE SMITH: Okay, because I just wanted you to know when we see a stranger sitting at the table, I would like to know who he is. All right, I would like to give kudos to Sergeant Emery back there. Sergeant Emery and his other partner were at a restaurant last week. I don't know if most of you know about it. They were sitting at a restaurant and here comes a dope head selling drugs and asked him did he want to buy some drugs. They were sitting there minding their own business eating and they were eating in their regular clothes and here comes the drug dealer asking them would they like to buy some drugs. Naturally they were taken aback and they said yes, do

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you have anymore, and the dummy went outside to get some more, and when he comes back they just politely put handcuffs on him and taken him out. So I wanted the committee to know and the neighborhood to know what we have out here on the streets. It's not all their fault if they don't respond to what you want them to do, and I thought I would bring that to your attention and Let you know that there are some dedicated police here and also-

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Beautiful. Thank you so much, Ms. Smith.

BERNICE SMITH: My time is up all ready?

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Yes, it is. Thank you for that report.

BERNICE SMITH: I thank you for coming here and do come back again.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Absolutely, Ms. Smith.

BERNICE SMITH: And we'll feed you here even though you don't feed us downtown.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: There is only one Sister Bernice Smith. That's my sister for real. There will be no others speaking. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

(Meeting is adjourned at 7:12 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,

**RICHARD VISINGARDI, PhD.**  
Interim Secretary to Board  
Board of Police Commissioners